

**Whereas**, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State residents who have admirably devoted their lives and careers to helping children meet their educational needs in preparation for future roles as societal leaders; and

**Whereas**, Rita Gram of St. Louis, Missouri, has attained distinction as a teacher, counselor, and school administrator whose educational labors have spanned more than three decades; and

**Whereas**, Principal of Flynn Park School in the University City School District for eight years, Rita Gram brought to her stellar leadership post a wealth of knowledge and experience garnered from earlier work as an elementary school counselor for twenty-three years at four different schools, as an elementary teacher for one year in the Hazelwood School District, and as a youth counselor for three years at JCCA; and

**Whereas**, the author of four books on the counseling of school children and parents, Rita Gram prepared for her professional endeavors by earning a Bachelor of Arts in Education degree from Washington University and a Master of Education degree in counseling from the University of Missouri-St. Louis; and

**Whereas**, Rita Gram has been married for thirty-eight years to her beloved Richard, whom she met in 1964 while the two of them were working at JCCA Camp Hawthorne as Village Directors, and has enjoyed down through the years developing special relationships with her two daughters, Wendy and Elizabeth; her cat, Daisy; and a thirty-foot sailboat named DreamQuest; and

**Whereas**, Rita Gram is a truly delightful person who is known for her fondness for large hats and bright red clothes, a special dolphin puppet named “DOSO”, and Starbucks coffee, and for her willingness to do just about anything for her students, including dying her hair green for a successful literacy campaign:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the thirty-one-year-long educational career of Rita Gram and to convey to her this legislative body’s heartiest congratulations and best wishes as she partakes of the special opportunities and pleasures traditionally associated with the golden years of retirement, especially sailing the seas and reading mystery stories; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of Rita Gram.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Barbara Wall Fraser  
District No. 83

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 3088, adopted May 22, 2003.

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Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker